

**Version With Markings To Show Changes Made**

**IN THE CLAIMS**

1. (Amended) A hybridization assay comprising the steps of:

(a) generating a population of tagged target nucleic acids from an initial sample of nucleic acids with a collection of ~~a representative number of~~ at least 20 tagged gene specific primers;

(b) contacting said population of tagged target nucleic acids with an array of tag complements immobilized on a solid support, wherein each member of said population of tagged target nucleic acids has a tag domain that is known to be a complement of a tag complement of said array; and

(c) detecting any resultant hybridization complexes on said array.

Cancel Claim 6.

7. (Amended) The hybridization assay according to Claim 1 6, wherein the magnitude of any difference in hybridization efficiency between any two tag-tag complement pairs employed in said assay does not exceed about 5 fold.

11. (Amended) The hybridization assay according to Claim 1 6, wherein said initial nucleic acid sample is a ribonucleic acid sample.

12. (Amended) The hybridization assay according to Claim 6 1, wherein said assay comprises generating labeled, tagged target nucleic acids from at least two distinct initial nucleic acid samples.

13. (Amended) A kit for use in a hybridization assay, said kit comprising:

(a) ~~at least one of:~~

(i) —an array of distinct tag complements immobilized on the surface of a solid support; ~~and~~

(ii)—(b) a set of ~~a representative number of~~ at least about 20 distinct tagged gene specific primers, wherein each member of said set includes a tag domain that is known to be a complement of a tag complement of said array; and

~~(b)(c)~~ means for identifying the physical location on said array to which each distinct tagged gene specific primer hybridizes.

Cancel Claim 14.

19. (Amended) An array of distinct tag complements immobilized on a solid support, wherein said tag complements are members of a collection of tag-tag complement pairs in which the magnitude of any difference in hybridization efficiency between any two tag-tag complement pairs in said collection does not exceed about 10 fold, and at least one of said tag complements is hybridized to tagged target nucleic acid.

Cancel Claim 20.

Cancel Claim 22.

Cancel Claim 23.

Cancel Claim 24.

Cancel Claim 25.